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der stem is but a few inches in diameter. No class of ferns is as yet so poorly described as the tree-ferns; description should be from the living specimen and at the locality; the only such in English are those in Thwaites' Flora of Ceylon. Jamaica is remarkable in particular for its numerous Filmy Ferns, 26 species (out of 280 known); these are all in the three eastern parishes. In the east part *Blechnum occidentale* is the common fern of the roadsides; *Polypodium reptans* was seen everywhere, now growing erect; one bank 30x25 feet, was completely covered with *Gleichenia pectinacea*. The great number of endemic species is surprising; as if the work of differentiation had gone on there with greater activity and vital power than anywhere else in the world; every genus in Jamaica shows one or more endemic species.

Mr. Gilbert closed by exhibiting specimens of three new species from Jamaica, belonging to *Asplenium*, *Dryopteris* and *Polypodium*, and also of a number of rare species as *Entomosora Campbellii*, *Gymnogramma schizophylla* and *Adiantum Candollei*. His paper was discussed by President Brown, Prof. Underwood and Dr. Rusby, the latter referring to the uses made of tree-ferns in New Zealand, as compared with the use for timber and for posts in Jamaica.

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